



RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP AN EXPANDED COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE, TESTING, AND CONTACT TRACING PLAN FOR THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a devastating and highly infectious novel respiratory disease for which there is currently no cure, vaccine, or evidence of herd immunity; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 threat, the Governor and the Mayor have imposed measures, including stay-at-home orders and a mandatory 14-day quarantine on all incoming travelers, to slow transmission of the virus between individuals and within the community; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused hotels, shopping malls, airlines, restaurants, retailers, service professionals, nonprofits, and a wide variety of Hawaii businesses to significantly reduce or shut down operations; and

WHEREAS, the closure or partial shutting down of businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the receipt of more than 220,000 unemployment claims, representing about one-third of the State's workforce, by the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; and

WHEREAS, as of May 5, 2020, the State has seen a consistent declining trend in new daily COVID-19 cases, with new case counts consistently in the single-digit range, and has proceeded to a phased reopening; and

WHEREAS, public health experts recommend that as the economy remobilizes, states should replace stay-at-home orders with scaled-up surveillance, testing, and tracing systems that should include syndromic surveillance, rapid diagnostic testing, and serological antibody testing, as the main tools for disease control in order to contain future COVID-19 outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of County and City Health Officials estimates that, given the magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to complete contact tracing within hours as opposed to days, 30 professionals (i.e., epidemiologists, disease investigation specialists, public health nurses, community health workers, and others) per 100,000 population are needed to conduct contact tracing activities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles, prompted by the number of test kits left over at the end of each day at its testing sites, announced that it will expand testing efforts by



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offering free COVID-19 testing to all residents, including individuals without symptoms, at 34 testing sites, which have the cumulative capacity to test 18,000 persons a day; and

WHEREAS, by *Medical Advisory: Update #9—Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)*, dated April 8, 2020, the Hawaii Department of Health ("DOH") acknowledged that COVID-19 asymptomatic/pre-symptomatic infection and transmission may occur, but recommended that healthcare providers test only symptomatic persons; and

WHEREAS, at the meeting of the Hawaii Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 on April 28, 2020, the Administrator of the DOH State Laboratories, testified that five laboratories in the State are currently conducting a total of between 400 to 1,000 tests daily, which falls short of their peak testing capacity of 3,000 tests per day; and

WHEREAS, at the meeting of the Hawaii Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 on April 30, 2020, the DOH Director testified that the DOH has implemented contact tracing and a sentinel surveillance program, but has not yet implemented programs for COVID-19 syndromic surveillance and serological antibody testing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that implementing an expanded COVID-19 surveillance, testing, and contact tracing plan, is essential in order to rebuild the community's trust in public health and safety and support the reopening of the State's economy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Hawaii Department of Health is urged to develop an expanded COVID-19 surveillance, testing, and contact tracing plan for the State of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the testing plan should address:

- Expanding the number and locations of testing sites, including at community health centers,
- Expanding upon the existing testing and surveillance systems,
- Implementing effective COVID-19 screening procedures for visitors to the State and returning residents,
- Developing a large contact tracing workforce,



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- Testing asymptomatic individuals, and
- Reporting testing data to the counties; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor, and the Director of the Hawaii Department of Health.

INTRODUCED BY:

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAY 6 2020

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 20-112

Introduced: 05/06/20 By: JOEY MANAHAN

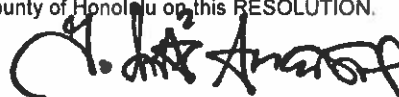
Committee: EXECUTIVE MATTERS
AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP AN EXPANDED COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE, TESTING, AND CONTACT TRACING PLAN FOR THE STATE OF HAWAII.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

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| 05/19/20 | EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS | CR-129 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION. 8 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS. 1 EXCUSED: FUKUNAGA. |
| 06/03/20 | COUNCIL | CR-129 AND RESOLUTION 20-112 WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS. |

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

IKAIKA ANDERSON, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER